

## Bonhomme, Penny

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**From:** Anna Maria [ma9yar.9ypsy@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2012 11:13 PM

**To:** PHC Testimony

**Cc:** cmbrdh@gmail.com

Hello, My name is Anna Demeter.

I am a Registered Dental Hygienist, licensed in Trumbull, Connecticut. I would like you to support, on my behalf, legislation to establish the Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner. The ADHP will add a new member to the dental team to deliver care to the underserved in Connecticut. Access to dental services necessary to maintain optimal oral health, which is an integral component of total health, can increase with the creation of a midlevel practitioner like the ADHP. Please support the Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner. This proposal will make it possible for thousands of underserved patients who cannot obtain care, to receive needed dental care.

I currently work in a School Based Health Clinic setting. I have seen an increase in dental decay over the past couple of years. Whether it is caused by changes in diet, lack of dental insurance, parental unemployment, or ignorance, it is a problem that demands to be addressed. There needs to be a way to provide dental services to these children, and others who are suffering from lack of funds required to obtain optimum oral hygiene care.

This type of midlevel provider, a kin to the APRN (nurse practitioner) is the way of the future and as you know CT is the Origin of Dental Hygiene - Bridgeport 1913. We will be celebrating the 100th year, next May.